

CONCRETE Monthly

Count on Concrete

News from the cement and concrete industries

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INDUSTRY NEWS

Count on Concrete

What in the World?

Tilcon hands-on program may help interest kids in a construction career

Tilcon-Delaware, northeast Delaware's largest paving and construction materials supplier, is traveling to area schools throughout Kent County, Del. through the end of school to fire up kids' imaginations and educate them about the aggregate industry as part of the Science, Math & Technology Alliance in the "What in the World" program.

"The fact that you're sparking a child's interest about the aggregate field or something within it, such as why roads sparkle, is very rewarding," Tilcon employee Tracie Daddio said. "To see that look of awe when they learn something simple about things they normally take for granted is what makes participating in this program so special."

The "What in the World" program was created to educate students about different careers and fields available to them. The program includes grades 3-12 in all schools throughout Delaware, with approximately 15-16 schools participating each year. Tilcon has been participating in the program's "Science Alliance" for more than seven years.

Tilcon's Program

"Tilcon's presentation is one of the best and we're thrilled to have them as part of the program," said Charles Spiering, program manager for the Kent County "What in the World" program. "The Tilcon volunteers are very hands-on – bringing tons of materials the kids can touch and explore – and really know how to get the kids involved."

Tilcon's "Science Alliance" team visits two to four schools per month, where they teach mostly third- through seventh-graders. The presentations are designed to be fun and hands-on, incorporating materials such as a model of a hot-mix plant, posters of asphalt plants, labs and equipment, and samples of



Tilcon employees have been bringing the story of aggregate and paving to schools for seven years.

hot-mix, stone and crushed glass that the students can safely handle.

"We're educating students about science and technology-related industries and how companies can be good stewards of the environment through the use of renewable natural resources and recycling programs,"

Daddio said. "And we have a great time with the kids, who make it all worthwhile."

Tilcon will continue their participation in the program throughout April and May before the summer break.

Tilcon-Delaware, the region's leading commercial, public and private infrastructure

contractor, has been serving the Delmarva Peninsula for 50 years.

Tilcon is part of the Mid-Atlantic Group of Oldcastle Materials Inc. (tilcondc.com), which is one of the largest suppliers of asphalt and ready mixed concrete in the northeast United States.



A Tilcon employee holds students' attention with a discussion of the process for making paving material.

Ready Mixed Concrete Supplier

Tilcon-Delaware is part of the Mid-Atlantic Group, owned by Oldcastle Materials Inc., which also includes Harrisburg, Penn.-based Pennsy Supply and Slusser Brothers in West Hazleton, Penn.

Tilcon is the area's largest paving and construction materials supplier with seven plants in Wilmington, Dover, Gumboro, Seaford and Georgetown, Del., as well as in Delmar, Md.; and sand-and-gravel production facilities located in Dover and Little Creek, Del. But the company is also a ready mixed concrete supplier to the same area through Pioneer Concrete, which has plants located in Wilmington, Bear and Dover, all in Delaware, and Avondale, Penn.; and through Pennsy Supply, which has six concrete plants.

Pioneer Concrete Inc. is a fourth generation, family-owned ready-mix concrete producer and concrete pumping service with a fleet of 55 front discharge mixers and six 32 meter boom pumps serving Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania. We willingly supply virtually every application of concrete from sidewalk to high-rise buildings.

Pennsy Supply has been supplying aggregate, concrete and asphalt throughout southcentral Pennsylvania for more than 80 years. In addition to the concrete plants, Pennsy Supply operates 13 quarries producing crushed stone, sand and high-calcium limestone; and six asphalt plants. **CM**